THE

Letters Patents

OF THE

States-General,

(Tranſlated out of DUTCH)

GRANTED TO

William Walcot, Eſq;

Upon their Seeing the Demonſtrations of his ART of Making *Sea-Water* Freſh, &c. And *Putrified-Water* Wholeſome.

THE States General of the United *Netherlands*, To all that ſhall ſee theſe Preſents, or hear the ſame to be read, Greeting. We do make known, That we Received the Humble Petitionto us preſented, in the Name, and on the behalf of *William Walcot*; purporting that he the Petitioner, by the Uſe of his own Induſtry had found out a New Invention, not only to make Foul Stinking Water uſeful to be Drank, but alſo and principally Salt or Brackiſh Water comeing out of the Sea, to make Sweet and Freſh in a ſhort time, in great quantities, for all Ships, in long Voyages at Sea; upon Reaſonable Termes; and to Make and Uſe the ſame as occaſion ſhall be in Cities, Legers and Ships, or elſewhere, where no Freſh Water is to be had, and where Annoyed with Brackiſh or Stinking Water, for the Eaſe and Suſtenance of all Men, as well by Land, as upon the Water, upon any occaſion whatſoever: For the finding out of which Invention, the Petitioner had been at great Expence, and that therefore he ought to enjoy the Benefit thereof: And that he the Petitioner was informed that

574629

some Ill Designing Persons were endeavouring to Imitate his said Invention, and so to draw the Benefit from him. He thereupon desiring our Octroy or Patent, and we having taken the same into our Consideration, and finding our selves inclined to the Prayer of the Petitioner, Have Consented, Agreed, and Granted unto him; and by these Presents do Consent, Agree, and Grant unto him, that he only, with Exclusion of all others, Make, Practise, set at Work, and Use, and also Sell the said New Invention for the Term of Fifteen Years now next Ensuing, in these *United Netherlands*, Associated Countreys, Cities, and Members thereof; for making Stinking Waters useful to be Drank, and Salt, or Brackish Water Sweet and Fresh: And we therefore Prohibit all, and every the Inhabitants of the aforesaid *United Netherlands*, Associated Countreys, Cities, and Members thereof, within the said Space of Fifteen Years next Ensuing, the said New Invention in part, or in whole, either great or small, to Imitate, or cause to be Imitated; or being Imitated, to Import, Sell, or Use the same, under forfeiture of all the Imitated Works and Instruments: And moreover, of the Sum of Three Thousand *Carolus Gilders*; One Third Part thereof to go to the Officer who shall Inform, another Third Part to the Use of the Poor, and the remaining Third Part to the Use of the Petitioner; Ordering and Commanding all Officers, Justices, Magistrates, and Inhabitants of the aforesaid Countreys, and all others whom it may Concern: that they permit and suffer the said Petitioner to Enjoy and have the full Effect of this our Octroy, Consent, and Priviledge, any Let or Opposition to the contrary, notwithstanding. He the Petitioner being nevertheless bound by this our Octroy, to Desire, and also Obtain an Octroy from such Province or Provinces, where he shall Practice, and set at Work his aforesaid New Invention.

Given at the Hague *under the Seal of the State, and the Firm of the Lord presiding in our Assembly, and the Hand of our Secretary, the* 16th. *of* Septemb. 1684.

By the Command of the aforesaid
Lords States General.

L. S. *Francis Verbolt.* *H. Fagell.*

This Agrees in Substance with the Original,
London, the 17*th*. of *January*, 1692.

WILLIAM SCOREY, Not.

THE

Letters Patents

OF THE

States of Holland,

(Tranſlated out of DUTCH)

GRANTED TO

William Walcot, Eſq;

Upon their Seeing the Demonſtrations of his ART of Making *Sea-Water* Freſh, *&c.* And *Putrified-Water* Wholeſome.

THE States of *Holland* and *Weſt-Friezeland* do make known, That Whereas *William Walcot*, Eſq; hath ſhewed unto Us, That he, Petitioner, by Long Study, and Unwearied Labour, and very great Charge in making Inſtruments for Tryal of Experiments, hath perfectly Attained the ſo long ſought for Art of Making of all Impure, Stinking, as alſo Salt and Brackiſh Water, Sweet, Freſh, and Wholeſome for the Service and Support of all Men, by great Quantities in a Short Time, and with ſmall Charge; the Clear Proof whereof the Petitioner had ſhewn in part to the Lords Deputies out of the Aſſembly of Their High and Mightineſſes, and likewiſe to ſeveral of Our Aſſembly: But the further Serviceableneſs and Benefit, he will make more clearly appear, when the ſame ſhall be brought under the Protection of our Grant (with Excluſion of all other Gain-ſeeking Men) for a General Uſe both by Sea and Land. The Petitioner humbly requeſts that We would pleaſe to take into Conſideration the Reſolution of their

their High and Mightineſſes, Dated the 11*th* of *March*, 1684. Exhibited unto us, taken upon a Requeſt of the Petitioner delivered to their High and Mightineſſes, therein Offering, That if his Adverſary Mr. *Fitz-Gerald*, with his Adherents, could in all things Out-do, and better Manage and Work the Petitioners Invention than the Petitioner, they might then obtain a Free Grant; and the Petitioner, notwithſtanding the Great Charges he hath been at, would be content to depart without Speaking of a Conjunction, or Asking a Grant. And foraſmuch as it did very Clearly Appear to their High and Mightineſſes, and to divers of Our Aſſembly, by the Petitioners Grant from the King of *England*, Dated the 28*th*. of *October*, 1675, That the Petitioner was the True Inventor, and the firſt who had given Right Demonſtration thereof; and that his Opponents could as yet do no otherwiſe, than what in times of Neceſſity many Years paſt had been done in Ships, but was never Approved for Good or Wholeſome Water; In purſuance whereof, the Petitioner deſires the Benefit of the above-mentioned Reſolution: Alſo the Allowing of Two Grants for one and the ſame Invention, was a thing contrary to the General Cuſtom of Nations, and would hinder the Practice of Art, as appear'd in *England*, and at once diſcourage the Petitioner to put forward in the ſame; for then his Opponents making themſelves Maſters thereof, would quickly Vaunt it over all the World, (of which the Petitioner hath already had ſome effect) and thruſt the Petitioner thereout; they as is now clearly manifeſt had not the Art to make Salt-Water, ſtanding, Foul and Stinking Water Wholeſome, or to do more or otherwiſe than any Ordinary Diſtiller, who might altogether pretend to as much Right to a Grant as his Opponents: The Petitioner moſt humbly Requeſted, that we would pleaſe to obſerve that the whole Regard and Deſign of his Opponents appears here to be as they have done in *England*, to hinder the Petitioners pure Deſign of putting in Practice his Laudable Invention, (a Matter of ſo great Eſteem and Serviceableneſs for the Whole World) and to force him to a Complyance, whereby the Fruits of the Petitioners Study, Coſt, and Labour might be brought to them, as they had Endeavoured to do in *England*, by Great Expences of Money, and Powerful Intereſt of Friends; againſt which the Petitioner did not uſe ſuch Means, but ſubmitted his Caſe to the Juſtice and High Wiſdom of Our Famous Aſſembly, on which it now depends to keep alive this Serviceable Secret, that it may be made Practicable in the World. The Premiſſes being conſidered, the Petitioner moſt humbly prayed, That We would pleaſe to beſtow on him a Grant, Prohibiting all others directly or indirectly, by Sea or by Land, to Serve themſelves therewith, and that for ſo many Years as has been Granted by Us to other Finders out of Inventions of great Weight. Now, So it is, That We having Conſider'd the aforeſaid Caſe and Requeſt; and being Inclined at the Petitioners Prayers, (after having taken the Judgment and Advice of the Lords Deputies of the City of *Dort*, and others by Us Appointed for Sea-Affairs and Manufactures) Have of Our Right Knowledge, Soveraign Power and Authority, Conſented, Agreed and Granted, We do Conſent, Agree, and Grant unto the Petitioner by theſe preſents, That he, during the Time of Fifteen Years next following, with his Heirs, Executors, and Aſſigns, his ſaid Invention of making Foul, Stinking, and Salt-Water Sweet and Good, as well by Sea as on Land, within our ſaid Countreys, Only ſhall and may Make and Uſe, and Cauſe to be Made, Uſed, and Practiſed. Forbidding therefore all and every Perſon to make Uſe of his ſaid Invention, and Works, Directly or Indirectly, at Sea or on Land, or to Imitate the ſame;

ſame, or the ſame being Counterfeited, to bring or Sell the ſame in Our ſaid Countreys, upon Forfeiture of the Imitated Works, and a Fine of Fifteen Hundred Gilders to be Forfeited over and above, to be Applyed, One Third Part to the Informer, One Third Part to the Poor of the Place where it ſhall happen, and the Remaining Third Part to the Petitioner, his Heirs, Executors, and Aſſigns. And to the End, the Petitioner may Enjoy this Our Conſent and Grant, as he ought; We Charge all and every, Whom it may Concern, that they may Permit and Suffer the Petitioner peaceably, quietly, and fully to Uſe and Enjoy what is here contained, any thing to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Done at the Hague *under Our Great Seal here Appending, the Fourteenth of* September, *in the Year of Our Lord and Saviour, One Thouſand, Six Hundred, Eighty Four.*

Gaſp. Fagel.

By Ordinance of the States,

Simon Van Beaumont.

It Agreeth in Subſtance with the Original:
Which I Teſtifie, *London*, 16th. *January*, 1692.

WILLIAM WIGHTMAN, Not.

THE

Letters Patents

OF THE

States of Zeeland,

(Tranſlated out of DUTCH)

GRANTED TO

William Walcot, Eſq;

For the Encouragement of his ART of Making *Sea-Water* Freſh, *&c.* And *Putrified-Water* Wholeſome.

THE States of the Land and Earldom of *Zeeland*, do make known, That we having ſeen the Octroy Granted by the High and Mighty Lords, States General of the *United Netherlands*, and of the Lords States of *Holland* and *Friezeland*, to *William Walcot*, Eſq; for the Space of Fifteen Years, all Salt, Brackiſh, and Stinking Water, Freſh, Clear, Sweet, and Sound, to make; but chiefly Salt and Brackiſh Water coming out of the Sea, in a ſhort Time, and great Quantities, for all Ships in long Voyages at Sea, upon Reaſonable Terms, to make Sweet and Freſh Water; and as occaſion ſhall ſerve to cauſe the ſame to be made for, and uſed in Cities, Legers, and Ships, or elſewhere, where no Freſh-Water can be obtained, and where Annoyed with Salt, Brackiſh, or Stinking Water, for the Eaſe and Support of all Perſons, as well by Land, as upon the Water, upon any Occaſion whatſoever; for the finding out of which Invention, great Charges had been Expended; ſo that of Right he ought to Enjoy the Benefit thereof; but the Petitioner being Informed that

ſome

endeavoured to Imitate his aforesaid Inven-
him of the Benefit of the same; He therefore
Which having consider'd, So it is, That we finding
to the Prayer of the aforesaid Petitioner, have Con-
and Granted unto him; and do Consent, Agree, and
Ordain, That he Only, **with Exclusion of all others,**
Fifteen Years next Ensuing, in this *Province*, the afore-
tion of Making Stincking-Water fit to be Drank, and
Sweet and Fresh Water, may Make, Exercise, Set at
Also Sell and Dispose of the same. Forbidding all and
every the Inhabitants within the aforesaid time of Fifteen Years, next
ensuing, the said New Invention, in Whole, or in Part, Great, or
Small, to Imitate, or cause to be Imitated, or Used; or Imitated else-
where, to be Brought, Sold, or Used in this Province, under Forfeiture
of all the Imitated Works and Instruments. And moreover, the Sum
of Fifteen Hundred *Gilders*; One Third to go to the Officer who shall
Inform, One Third to the Poor of the Place where the Matter shall hap-
pen, and the remaining Third Part to the Petitioner. We Charging and
Commanding all, and every one, whom it may Concern, That they
Permit and Suffer the Petitioner, Peaceably, Quietly, and Entirely, to
Enjoy and Use the Contents of this Our Octroy, all Impediments to
the contrary notwithstanding.

Thus done at the Court of Zeeland, *at* Middlebrough,
the 30th. *of* April, 1685.

By Command of the aforesaid Lords States.

V. Verheye.

This Agrees in Substance with the Original,
London, the 17th. of *January*, 169⅞.

WILLIAM SCORET, Not.